

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORTTOPIC Soviet Troops in Magdeburg

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 25 July 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 9 June 1950 the barracks on the southern side of Breitscheidstrasse were occupied by 600 to 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia. Guns were not observed. It was said that the troops moved into the installation about 1 June 1950. The unit previously quartered there wore red epaulets. Motor vehicles were identified in the billeting area. (1) 50X1-HUM
2. A rear unit of 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with artillery insignia, was in the barracks on the northern side of Breitscheidstrasse on 9 June 1950. Twenty new trucks were seen between the garages. (2)
3. The Pionier Kaserne on Herrenkrugchaussee was partially destroyed. The inhabitable buildings were occupied to capacity by about 500 troops, probably belonging to a repair shop unit since most of them wore black coveralls. Troops in uniform wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. Motor vehicles were parked in the barracks area and motor vehicles in front of the barracks. (3) 50X1-HUM
4. The barracks on Turmschanzenstrasse were largely destroyed. The inhabitable quarters were occupied to capacity by about 100 troops wearing black epaulets. Soldiers were rewinding cables in the yard. There was a pile of 100 to 120 reels of field wire. (4) 50X1-HUM
5. There was little activity in the Flak Kaserne on Zipkeleberweg on 16 June 1950. Most of the troops were apparently away from the post. Trucks shuttling between the installation and the freight station carrying troops and baggage: 50X1-HUM

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2

50X1-HUM

Most of the trucks were stationed in the barracks on Breitscheidstrasse. About 300 troops entrained at the station on approximately 40 boxcars. (6) Trucks arrived at the railroad station towing an AA gun of about 80 mm caliber. one train had been loaded with AA guns and motor vehicles on 14 June 1950. (5)

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6. On 16 June 1950 gate guards at the two barracks installations on Breitscheidstrasse wore red-bordered black epaulets. There was no training activity at either of the two installations. Troops were observed firing carbines on nearby target ranges. (1) Twelve prime movers left the Artillerie Kaserne. Motor vehicles seen in the installations on Breitscheidstrasse

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(2)

7. On 16 June 1950 the barracks on Herrenkrugstrasse was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Fifteen groups of 12 to 15 men each were seen training in the drill area opposite the barracks. Motor vehicles

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were seen. (3)

8. Gate guards at the barracks on Turmschanzenstrasse wore black epaulets with signal insignia. The radio installation was still in the area. There was no training activity. Motor vehicles

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were seen. (4)

9. Sentries in front of the barracks on Beimstrasse wore black-bordered red epaulets. A tank colonel, an artillery colonel, a signal colonel, a signal lieutenant colonel and two artillery lieutenant colonels were observed in the billeting area. Motor vehicles

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were seen there. (7)

10. The six light AA guns previously observed were still emplaced at the railroad bridge. (8)
11. On 15 June 1950 about 350 soldiers, one third of them officers, left Magdeburg for Frankfurt/Oder aboard the leave train. (6)

Comments.

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- (1) The barracks probably housed recruits who arrived in early June 1950.

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3

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- (2) Elements of headquarters artillery units of the Third Shock Army, assumed to be in the barracks, may have gone to a troop training grounds. Drill with eight 122-mm guns was observed [redacted]

50X1-HUM

- (3) The barracks were more heavily occupied than in early April 1950. [redacted] It is believed that the Third Shock Army headquarters units and LXXIX Rifle Corps headquarters units stationed in the barracks also received recruits. It is considered possible that a repair shop may also be located in the billeting area.

- (4) The barracks house signal units, according to previous reports. [redacted]

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- (5) The information confirms reports [redacted] that Third Shock Army headquarters units and elements of the Third Shock Army's 3rd Gds AAA Div were absent from the post for field exercises. [redacted] Elements of the 3rd Gds AAA Div went to the Wustrow AAA range in and after late April 1950 [redacted]

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- (6) Probably a shipment of troops due for demobilization.
(7) The Encke Kaserne on Beimstrasse is believed to house elements of Hq Third Shock Army as well as other units. [redacted]

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